

Weekly Column for August 16<sup>th</sup> 2007

It's time to eat some Chowda! Or are we allowed to say Chowder here?

This coming Saturday, the inaugural, soon to be annual, ChowderFest will take place on River Street here in the beautiful City of Troy. Unlike the River Street Festival, the ChowderFest is set to take place just past the Green Island Bridge, near the up and coming entertainment district of Ryan's Wake, Jose Malone's Brown's Brewing, Café Deli-icious, and Revolution Hall.

With more than two-dozen restaurants participating, it is going to be quite the experience. Many, many thanks to Tosca Grille Chef Larry Schepici, who has come to Troy and not only brought a unique culinary treat, but also energy that is unmatched. His staff has worked tirelessly with the City to ensure the event is a success. All we need now are the people to come down and have some fun.

Thankfully, it looks as if they will have a wonderful day to enjoy, as temperatures are expected to be in the low 70's with sunny skies. The Farmer's Market kicks off the day in the parking lot of Hedley Park Place, and then it's onto the ChowderFest, which is scheduled to run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be great entertainment for the entire family, music, and the all-important judging of the chowder.

Who is going to be there? Here is a complete list in alphabetical order: Amici's Pizza and Deli, Arnet's Diner, Brown's Brewing, Daisy Bakers, DeFazio's, Flavour Café, Francesca's, Henderson's Bar and Grill, Holmes and Watson, Hot Spot Café, Illium Café, Jose Malone's, Joseph's House, Loporto's, River Street Café, Muza Diner, Patricelli's Deli and Pizza, Ryan's Wake, Salty's Pub, Spill'n The Beans, Ted's Fish Fry, the Ale House, The Century House, The Irish Mist, Tosca Grille, and the Troy Food Co-Op.

That is quite a list. Chowder tasting tickets will be available at both ends of the street. Please remember that if you are driving to the event, it is a street festival, so the road will be closed off to traffic. There is plenty of free parking available in the parking lot across from the Hedley Park Place, and all City garages, including the Uncle Sam Garage.

Come on down and be part of the excitement of the inaugural ChowderFest!

Have a great weekend!

Harry J Tutunjian  
Mayor of Troy